

Sub 1

5. (Twice Amended) An absorbent article comprising a liquid retentive absorbent layer and a liquid-impermeable leak proof layer, wherein an agent having a prescribed effect on the skin of a wearer and not causing a substantial reduction in water absorbing performance of said absorbent layer is fixed with a water-soluble thickener on a prescribed region of said absorbent article.

C2

12. (Amended) An absorbent article comprising a liquid-permeable top layer, liquid impermeable leak proof layer and a liquid retentive absorbent layer interposed between said top layer and said leak proof layer, said absorbent layer containing a superabsorbent polymer, a main absorbing region in said top layer being provided with a skin-care composition consisting essentially of an agent which is released from said region, and dissolves or disburses in water upon contacting with a water content, said agent not causing a substantial reduction in water absorbing performance of said superabsorbent polymer.

C3

13. (Amended) An absorbent article comprising a liquid-permeable top layer, liquid impermeable leak proof layer and a liquid retentive absorbent layer interposed between said top layer and said leak proof layer, said absorbent layer containing a superabsorbent polymer, a main absorbing region in said top layer being provided with a skin-care composition consisting essentially of an agent which is released from said region, and dissolves or disburses in water upon contacting with a water content, and a water-soluble thickener which fixes said

C3 agent on said region, said agent not causing a substantial reduction in water  
absorbing performance of said superabsorbent polymer.

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